



1774#4  
137  
7-29-02

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.  
045167-00001

In Patent Application of: Zobebe, et al.

Serial No.  
10/098,603

Filing Date  
March 15, 2002

Examiner  
I. Soubra

Group Art Unit  
1774

Title: Apparatus and Method for Diffusion of Solutions Including a Method of Manufacturing

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Address to:  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**37 CFR 1.97(b)**

1. ☒ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

**37 CFR 1.97(c)**

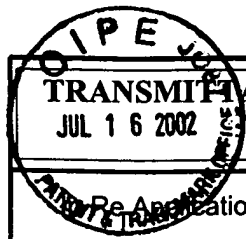
2. ☐ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:

☐ the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);

OR

☐ the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

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JUL 23 2002  
**GROUP 1700**



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**Apparatus and Method for Diffusion of Solutions Including a Method of Manufacturing**

**Payment of Fee**

(Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))

- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- ☐ The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☐ Charge the amount of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Credit any overpayment.
- ☐ Charge any additional fee required.

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I certify that this document and fee is being deposited July 10, 2002 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

*Tiffany McClain*  
Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

Tiffany McClain

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Certificate

Dated: 7-10-02

Russell Carter Gache, Esq.  
Sirote & Permutt, P.C.  
P.O. Box 55727  
Birmingham, AL 35255-5727

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CC:



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re: Application of:

Zobebe, et al.

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DIFFUSION OF SOLUTIONS INCLUDING A  
METHOD OF MANUFACTURING

U.S. Serial No. 10/098,603

Filed: March 15, 2002

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P.O. Box 55727  
Birmingham, Alabama 35255-5727  
July 10, 2002

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

The applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, for his invention of an "APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DIFFUSION OF SOLUTIONS INCLUDING A METHOD OF MANUFACTURING." Attached hereto is a Form PTO-1449 listing seven (7) United States patents and five (5) foreign patent documents, and copies of the information in those patents. The applicant submits that none of the enclosed patents render his claims unpatentable; however, they are provided for the Examiner's consideration.

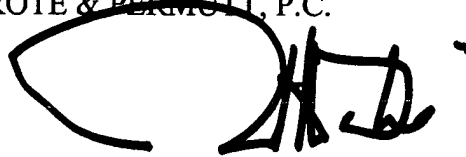
In particular, the current invention differs from all of the disclosed references in that none of these inventions disclose the Applicant's structure and method for diffusing solutions to the environment. Further, none of the disclosed references disclose the particular combination of elements claimed in the subject invention, nor does any combination of the disclosed references

render the invention obvious. In particular, without limitation, the combination of the reservoir structures and wick shapes are novel and unobvious.

Applicant makes no representation that a search has been made or, if made, was complete, or that no more pertinent art than that listed is available. It is expected that the Patent and Trademark Office will conduct an independent search for relevant references.

Respectfully submitted,

SIROTE & PERMUTT, P.C.

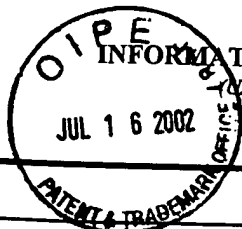
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RCG', is written over the printed name of the signatory.

By:

Russell Carter Gache  
Reg. No. 39,985  
205-930-5445

RCG:tm

Enclosures



## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

045167-00001

Application Number

10/098,603

Applicant(s)

Zobebe, et al.

Filing Date

March 15, 2002

Group Art Unit

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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A	5591395	01/07/1997	Schroeder et al.	422	4	
	B	5796914	08/18/1998	Gatzemeyer et al.	392	390	
	C	6123935	09/26/2000	Wefler et al.	424	76.1	
	D	4037352	07/26/1977	Hennart et al.	43	129	
	E	5647053	07/08/1997	Schroeder et al.	392	390	
	F	5521357	05/28/1996	Lock et al.	219	543	
	G	4849255	07/18/1989	Grise et al.	427	122	

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
	H	05139511	05/18/1993	Japan	A61L	9/03		✓
	I	WO 01/50849 A1	07/19/2001	Germany	A01M	1/20		✓
	J	2173103 A	03/27/1986	Great Britain	A61L	9/03	✓	
	K	WO 01/05442 A1	01/25/2001	Great Britain	A61L	9/02	✓	
	L	EP 09433344A1	03/19/1999	Italy	A61L	9/03	✓	

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.